

[8th August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

**Tourists inflow to Gujarat**

1843. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tourists visited Gujarat during 1998-1999 and till date;
- (b) whether the number of tourists increased or decreased;
- (c) in case of the number of tourists have decreased, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the total income from tourists visited from the above period;
- (e) the amount of that utilised on development of tourism; and
- (f) the balance in hand?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANT KUMAR): (a) According to the information furnished by the Government of Gujarat, total number of tourists who visited Gujarat during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and till date are as follows:—

Year	Total Number of Tourists visited Gujarat
1998-99	63,02,431
1999-2000	1,15,89,424
2000-2001	23,27,413
(From April, 2000 to June 2000 only)	

(From April, 2000 to June 2000 only)

(b) There has been an increase of number of tourist visiting Gujarat during the year 1999-2000 as compared to the year 1998-1999.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Estimate of foreign exchange earnings from tourism are not maintained State-wise.

(e) and (f) Development of tourism in any State is undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central financial assistance for the projects/ schemes identified every year in consultation with them. During the year 1999-2000, an amount of Rs.327.64 lakhs for 19 projects have been sanctioned for the development of tourism in the State of Gujarat.